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Application No. 10/735,646

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action mailed on July 5, 2006. This response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Stubstand et al. (US Patent 3867728).

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Bryan et al. (US Patent Application 2002/35400).

Claims 1, 2, 5-7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Bryan et al. (WO 00/13619).

Claims 1, 4 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Pisharodi (US Patent 6610093).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, but for the purposes of expediting allowance certain features have been added to claim 1 and two new claims have been added (claims 10 and 11). The structure recited in the current version of the claims is deemed patentable over all of the cited art.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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